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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Liberia

SUBJECT Stability of Current Political Regime/Relations with other West African Countries

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1. The political situation in Liberia remains stable with President Tubman firmly entrenched with no real threat in view. He has complete control of the True Whig Party although there is some ineffective opposition headed by ex-President Barclay and David S Coleman. They have no opposition program to offer but make the usual petty criticisms voiced by the "outs" against the "ins". Their opposition is occasioned by their desire to be in office. There is no chance they will replace Tubman. Barclay, especially, is very unpopular among all segments of the population. There is nothing to suggest the possibility of a successful coup d'etat against the present regime.
2. Outside the True Whig Party, there is no dissident group that can muster enough strength to be a threat. There is some agitation in the Kru Tribe, but the leader, Teve, is now a refugee from the country. There is also some agitation in the Grebo Tribe, stirred up by N S Brownell, Attorney General. In both instances it is based on independence for the tribes, which the agitators feel would enhance their personal prestige.
3. President Tubman's principal confidants to whom he turns for advice are; Richard Henries, Speaker of the House; ex-President C D B King; and vice-President Tolbert.
4. Liberia's relations with other countries first recognizes the US as their protector and best friend. Beyond that, President Tubman has said Liberia stands in favor of the national aspirations of peoples governed by other countries. He feels Liberia can help most by lending moral support and serving as an example of what can be accomplished by a freed people. He feels Liberia could not benefit by an alliance with her neighbors as they have nothing to offer. Liberia would join a United West Africa only if they could dominate it, for which there seems to be no possibility.

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5. In line with the policy of supporting national aspirations, they maintain friendly relations with champions of freedom, such as Nkrumah and Azikiwe. They would support any action by the Arab-Asian block that did not conflict with the interests of the US.
6. Relations with her neighbors are friendly. There have been some arguments with the French over customs but they are minor in character.

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